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SOUTH CAROLINA COASTAL COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

JULY 1, 1980 - JUNE 30, 1981

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Printed Under the Direction of the
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**SOUTH CAROLINA COASTAL
COUNCIL**

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I Statutory Authority

The South Carolina Coastal Council was created by Act 123 of the 1977 South Carolina Legislature. This Act is codified as Section 48-39-10 et seq. of the 1976 South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended. This Act created an 18 member governing body which is empowered to employ a professional staff and develop and implement a comprehensive coastal management program. The Act specifies several powers and duties of the Council and outlines some of the procedures and requirements to be used for managing South Carolina's coastal resources. The authority of the Council is divided into two parts and is limited to the eight coastal counties: Beaufort, Jasper, Colleton, Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester, Horry and Georgetown. Within these counties, which constitutes the coastal zone, a jurisdictional line for permitting of alterations of "critical areas" has been established. The critical areas are the beaches and primary ocean front sand dunes, tidelands, and coastal waters. This direct permitting in critical areas is the first part of the Council's authority. Throughout the rest of the coastal counties outside of these critical areas, the Council is authorized to review all state and federal permit applications to determine their consistency with the South Carolina Coastal Management Program. This review and certification process is the second part of the Council's authority. The attached map (Appendix A) delineates the critical areas of the coastal zone.

II. History

The Coastal Council began implementing its permitting authority on September 28, 1977. This part of the Coastal Management Program successfully reached the Council's goal of simplifying and expediting permit procedures for alteration of critical areas. Approximately 30 project proposals which were pending when the Council was created, including one that had been pending for seven years, were processed by the Council shortly after it began implementing its permit program. Also, a general permit for docks and piers was issued by the Council to simplify the process for individuals wanting to construct private recreational docks and piers.

Final regulations for the Council's permit program were approved by the General Assembly in June of 1978. These regulations were developed according to the process outlined

in the Act and included public hearings and intense debate among the Council. These regulations have been used to process 1,916 permits through this reporting period (June 30, 1981). Statistics on these permits are found in Appendix B.

The second major effort of the Council, which took two years to achieve, was development and approval by the Governor, S. C. General Assembly, and U. S. Secretary of Commerce of the South Carolina Coastal Management Program. In a lengthy process involving citizen advisory groups in each coastal county, public hearings across the state, and thousands of man-hours of work the Council developed a comprehensive program to meet the goals of the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (as amended) and the South Carolina Coastal Management Act. The Governor, Richard W. Riley, approved the program following legislative adoption in February of 1979. The Secretary of Commerce, Juanita Krepps, approved the program in September of 1979 in formal ceremonies in Beaufort's Waterfront Park.

Federal and State approval of the program initiated implementation of the full range of Council powers and duties and allowed the state to apply for Federal funds to help implement the program. Since program approval the State has received \$3 million from the Office of Coastal Zone Management in Washington, D. C., in 80/20 match grants. The Management Program includes several components derived from the State and Federal Acts. The central component of the program is the set of policies used to guide all development activities in the coastal zone. These policies are "performance standards" which outline the ways in which proposed activities may be sited, constructed, or developed that protect our natural coastal resources. The goals and objectives of the Management Program are reached through the careful implementation of these program policies.

Other components of the Management Program include an Energy Facility Planning Process, and Erosion Control Program, a Beach and Shoreline Access Program, and Intergovernmental Coordination Program (both State and Federal), and a program to protect and manage Geographical Areas of Particular Concern. Specific policies and procedures are included in these components to achieve their complex and difficult goals. All of the policies and components of the Management Program are in the *Final Environmental Impact Statement for the State of South Carolina Coastal Manage-*

ment Program, which also includes information on Lowcountry history, the natural environment, the coastal economy, population characteristics, and coastal land use.

III. Active Programs

The Council continues to implement the South Carolina Coastal Management Program which includes its Permit Program. It also includes enforcement of the program through three officers on detail from the Wildlife and Marine Resources Department for each of the three areas of the Coastal Zone. These officers supervise 22 Wildlife Law Enforcement officers who use cars, boats, and a helicopter to look for illegal alterations of the critical areas and for compliance with conditions of permitted alterations. A computer has been programmed to keep track of all permit applications and action taken on them. This aids the Council's effort to continue to simplify and streamline permit procedures.

The Council continues to review for certification the permits of other state and federal agencies in the coastal zone. This component of the program includes implementation of Federal Consistency, which became effective upon federal approval of the program. All federal activities, loans and grants, licenses and permits, and Outer Continental Shelf leasing program activities must be consistent with the South Carolina Coastal Management Program. The Council utilizes direct correspondence and OMB-A-95 procedures to review these federal activities for consistency. Sixteen federal agencies (including 34 subunits of the agencies) have been contacted to coordinate their programs with the South Carolina Coastal Management Program. The Council has entered into Memoranda of Understanding with eight state agencies to help coordinate their activities with the Program.

The Coastal Council is involved with Mt. Pleasant, Hilton Head and Daufuskie Island in a Special Area Management Plan effort. These three areas are undergoing rapid and substantial changes, and the Council is preparing a special plan to protect coastal resources for each area. Environmental and socio-economic studies give data to the Council which is used to plan for future development in a way consistent with the South Carolina Coastal Management Program. The local governments are urged to adopt these plans with the Council to create a partnership in the protection of coastal resources in these areas.

Two other activities initiated during this report period are educational in nature. One, the teacher training and curriculum development for a course on coastal resources and management, provided money and staff involvement to adapt a University of Hawaii developed course to South Carolina. Teachers may undergo workshops to become familiar with the course which is instructional in government processes as well as coastal ecosystems. The other activity is not academically oriented. It consists of developing and distributing a series of educational publications on coastal ecosystems, construction practices which are sensitive to or which can accommodate coastal ecosystem constraints, and specific design and engineering information and analysis for a variety of structures commonly built in the coastal zone (such as sea walls, docks, dune walkovers, etc.). Distribution of these publications should help developers and coastal land owners to appreciate the natural and public values of coastal resources and should provide substantial guidance on how to protect them.

Under a coastal fisheries assistance program the Coastal Council is helping to identify all of the oyster grounds in South Carolina. Through a contract with the South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium all oyster grounds will be mapped and this information will be used in the implementation of the Management Program and Permit Program. Work has also been contracted on a mechanical oyster harvester. This device will be used to collect and transfer oysters from polluted waters to unpolluted public shellfish areas.

SOUTH CAROLINA COASTAL COUNCIL**1981**

Senator James M. Waddell, Jr.—Chairman

Senator W. Paul Cantrell

Representative Jean B. Meyers

Representative William Campbell

Ms. Patricia Bowie—1st District

Dr. John M. Dean—2nd District

Dr. Jack Scurry—3rd District

Mr. Hubert E. Yarborough, III—4th District

Mr. James D. Leitner, Jr.—5th District

Mr. C. C. Huffman—6th District

Mr. Joab M. Dowling—Beaufort County

Mr. Carl Walsh—Berkeley County

Ms. Sallie J. Scott—Charleston County

Mr. C. G. Padgett—Colleton County

Dr. Thomas Messervy—Dorchester County

Mr. Claymon Grimes—Georgetown County

Mr. William J. Sigmon—Horry County

Mr. Walter Baxter—Jasper County

IV.

1981

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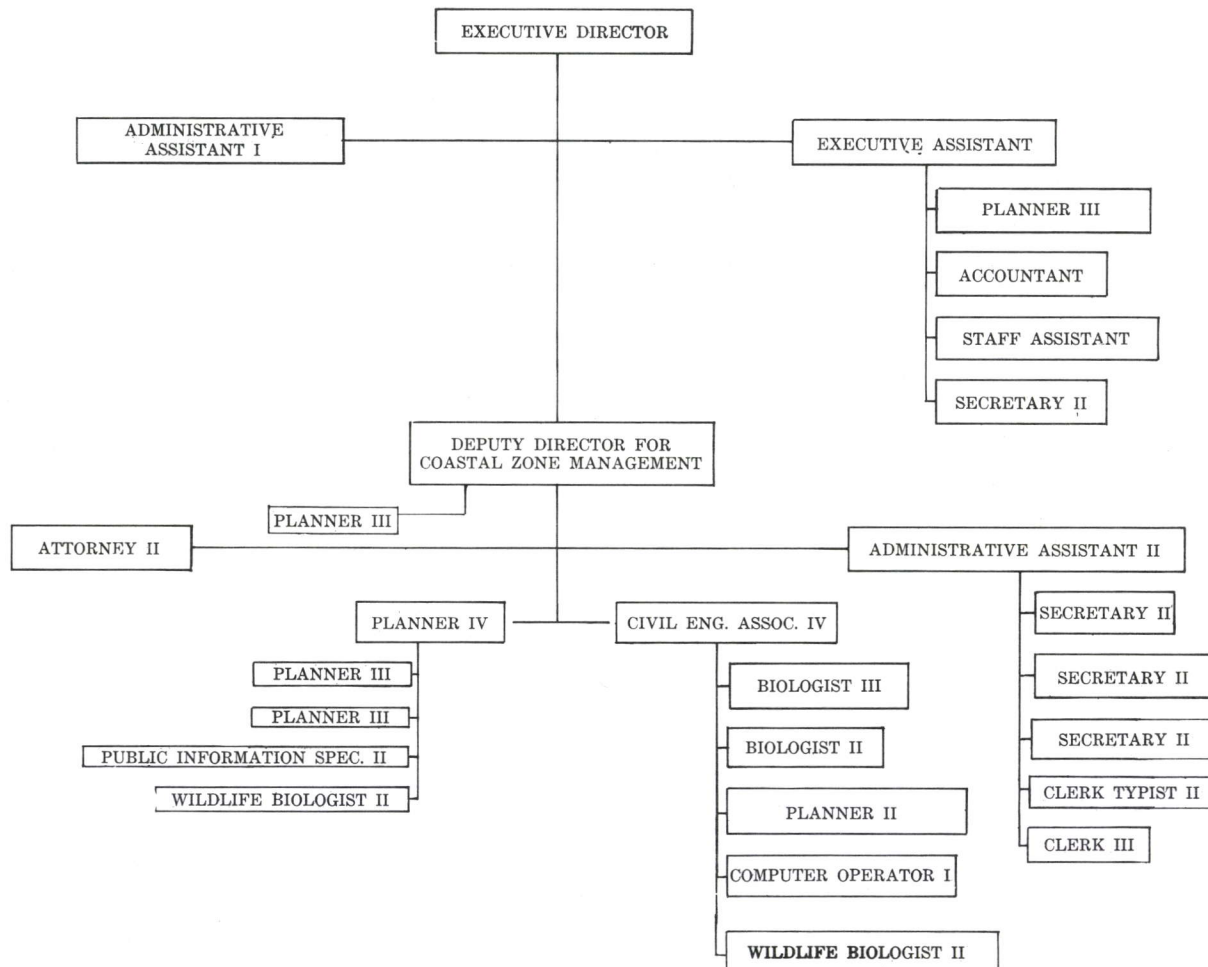
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V.

SOUTH CAROLINA COASTAL COUNCIL



VI.

SOUTH CAROLINA COASTAL COUNCIL
Expenditures for Fiscal Year 1980/1981

	Total Funds	State Funds
Personal Service	439,525.09	104,644.66
Per Diem—Board	<u>21,920.00</u>	<u>-0-</u>
Total Personal Service	461,445.09	104,644.66
Other Operating Expenses:		
Contractual Services	751,454.47	152,139.74
Supplies	83,473.99	713.39
Fixed Charges & Contributions	128,246.07	20,560.00
Travel	17,435.37	-0-
Equipment	<u>9,275.26</u>	<u>6,299.96</u>
 Total Other Operating Expenses	 989,885.16	 179,713.09
Employer Contributions	<u>68,051.53</u>	<u>15,750.00</u>
 Total Coastal Council	 <u><u>1,519,381.78</u></u>	 <u><u>300,107.75</u></u>

VII. List of Publications

1. State of South Carolina Coastal Management Program and Draft Environmental Impact Statement.
2. State of South Carolina Coastal Management Program and Final Environmental Impact Statement.
3. Carolina Currents (monthly).
4. Brochures on Council, Coastal Management, and Permitting.
5. Posters.
6. Rules and Regulations for Permitting (includes application form and instructions).

*Note: The Council maintains a Library at the Charleston office which contains hundreds of technical reports, studies, books and periodicals.

APPENDIX A—Map of Permit Jurisdiction (Critical areas shaded)



Appendix B

Permits Processed by Coastal Council from July 1, 1980 through June 30, 1981.

Outside of Critical Area

Action	Number
Certified	51
Certified with Provisions	6
Denied	1
Active	<u>4</u>
	62

Inside Critical Area

Action	Number
Cancelled	23
Issued but not signed	5
Active	75
Issued	222
Issued with provisions	197
Denied	20
Exempt	<u>5</u>
	547

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